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DCI-IC-76-1709

14 OCT 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

FROM:

[REDACTED]  
Director, Office of Policy and Planning,  
IC Staff

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SUBJECT: IC Staff Comments on Draft KIQs for  
FY-77

1. The IC Staff has reviewed the draft KIQ package and recommends the following changes in the Introduction.

- a. Add the following sentence at the end of paragraph two:

"Thus, the KIQs emphasize economies of operation and management efficiencies within fiscal year resource constraints without altering the totality of existing intelligence operational priorities."

Reason: To emphasize that KIQs do not change priorities nor do they imply decreased concern in other subject areas.

- b. Replace paragraph three with the following new paragraphs:

The National Intelligence Officers, in collaboration with the Intelligence Community Staff, will produce KIQ Strategy Reports aimed at developing special collection and analytical strategies to enhance the information gain and improve the analyses in each KIQ area of concern.

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The performance of the Intelligence Community on the KIQs will be evaluated to assess the effectiveness of the actions taken. These evaluations will be undertaken as part of a regular Intelligence Community Staff program which assesses the timeliness and quality of intelligence products in terms of the requirements of major users.

Reason: To separate different ideas and to accommodate the OPEI/IC desire to participate in KIQ strategy development.

2. Specific changes relating to the KIQs themselves are recommended to make them clearer, or to add or delete a question. These changes are keyed to each KIQ by number.

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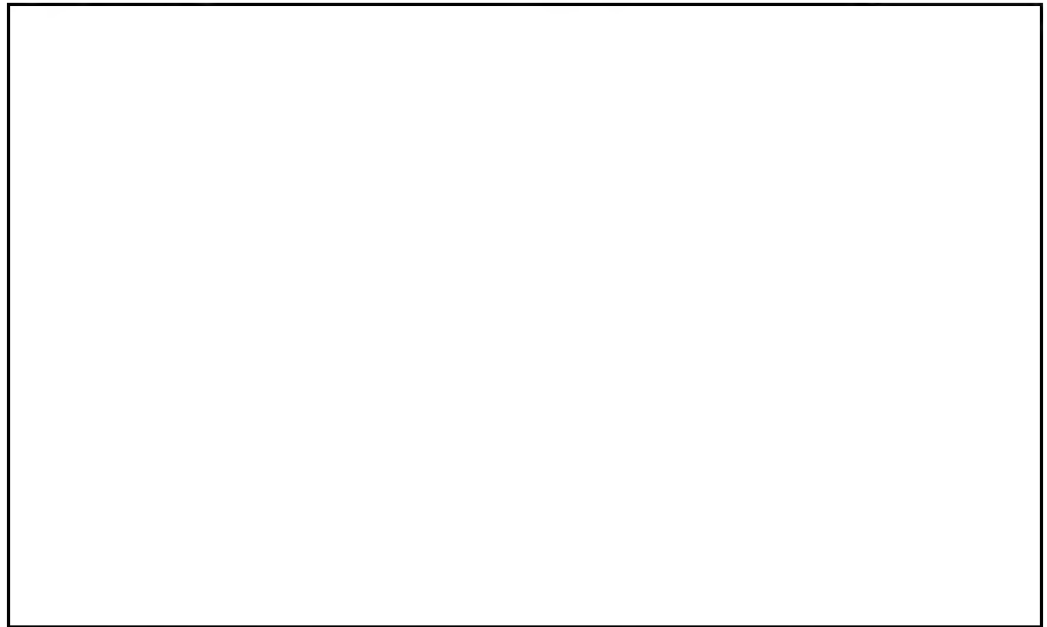
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3. If you agree with these modifications, we will undertake to forward the revised KIQ paper to the DCI for approval and recommend that he refer it to the NFIB for comment.



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Brigadier General, USA

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## KEY INTELLIGENCE QUESTIONS FOR FY 1977

### INTRODUCTION

The Key Intelligence Questions for Fiscal Year 1977, issued by the Director of Central Intelligence pursuant to his responsibilities in Executive Order 11905, represent a departure from past practice dictated by experience. The new list is short and highly selective, the questions having been chosen not only because they are important to national consumers, but also because a real need for action by the Intelligence Community exists and because action seems likely to produce results. The KIQs represent the DCI's guidance to all Intelligence Community collection and production managers on these selected subjects.

The Key Intelligence Questions continue to be formulated by the National Intelligence Officers. The primary purpose of the KIQs is to improve intelligence production and collection by providing a highly selective list of current, critical questions for a period of special operational attention. The purposeful limitation on the number of questions and their high degree of focus required that difficult choices had to be made from the many current high priority areas and questions. This meant that certain issues or problems, although very important, have been excluded. If a problem were considered likely to pass before a strategy for solving it could be devised, it was excluded. Also excluded were key problems of a critical nature which currently receive substantial and ongoing attention and which were not considered to require or lend themselves to Community action beyond that already underway. Examples are SAL and verification, as well as individual current weapon systems.

The National Intelligence Officers will produce KIQ Strategy Reports aimed at developing special collection and analytical strategies. The performance of the Intelligence Community on the KIQs will be evaluated as part of a regular Intelligence Community Staff program which assesses the timeliness and quality of intelligence products in terms of the requirements of major users.

The KIQs and their performance evaluations cannot provide systematic inputs for resource allocation decisions by program managers due to their limited number, specificity, and emphasis on current operations. However, they can provide valuable insights

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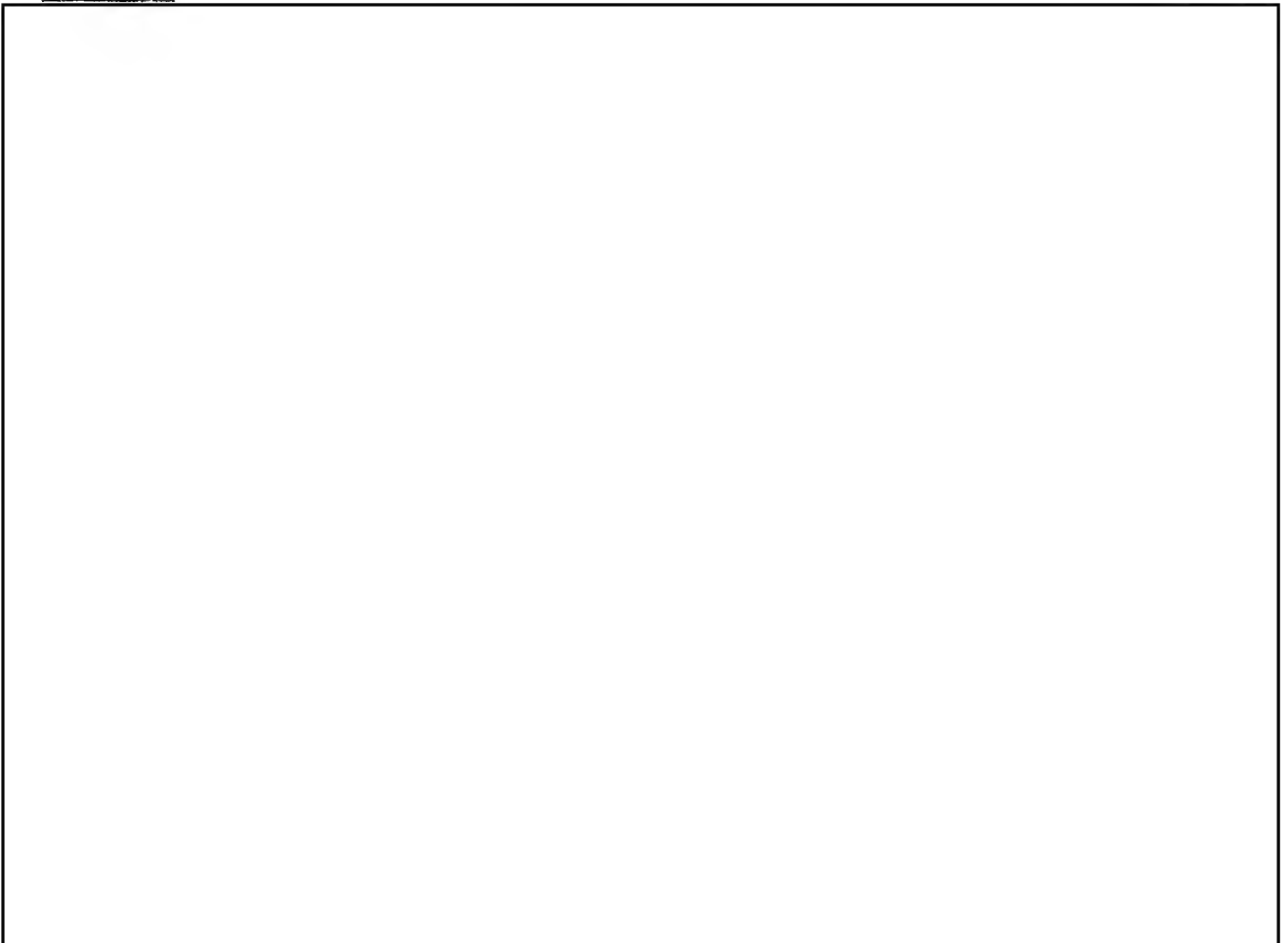
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for programming and planning. It is important to note that the KIQs do not derive their priorities from those appearing in the attachment to DCID 1/2, "U.S. Foreign Intelligence Priorities for Fiscal Years 1979-1983." Broad national intelligence planning priorities are based on a perspective of the foreign environment for the planning period and not on current operational needs.

Additions, deletions, or modifications to the Key Intelligence Questions may be issued from time to time during FY 77, depending on major changes in the international situation or if the foreign intelligence environment should dictate. The order in which the FY 77 questions are listed should not be regarded as implying an internal priority: by definition all the Key Intelligence Questions are of major importance, and are singled out for special operational attention.

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The KIQs



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